

MEDIA RELEASE

December, 2017

Residents welcomed into first of its kind care home

Metlifecare's Somervale Care Home and Serviced Apartments open

Metlifecare has opened a care home unlike any other in the Bay of Plenty region.

Residents of Somervale care home, part of Metlifecare's Somervale retirement village moved into their new home on the 11th of December, having been officially opened by CEO Glen Sowry and Tauranga Mayor Greg Brownless the week prior.

Designed as an integrated home-like environment, the new care suites are a unique care home offering in the region, says Metlifecare.

Residents live in smaller groups of no more than 12 care suites, with each group having their own kitchen, dining room and lounge area reflecting a modern home environment. In total, there are 69 care suites, 16 serviced apartments and six themed lounge areas, each with its own unique outlook, whether it be overlooking Arataki Park or the protected inner courtyard landscaping.

The boutique-like care home, with its friendlier layout, creates a much more intimate and personalised environment for the residents and their families, explains Metlifecare's Clinical Nurse Director, Tanya Bish.

"Residents can select and enjoy their meals in a similar way to a family dining together. They can help themselves and choose when they want to or don't want to eat from the meal laid out," said Bish.

"We know that quality family time is important for our residents so the new design allows families to bring their own ingredients with them so they can cook their favourite food in the kitchen with their mum or grandma."

"The serviced apartments are for people who may be at the stage where they need a higher level of care but you can still keep your spirit of independence whilst your family can rest assured that you're always in safe hands. They provide a nice middle-ground between fully independent living and assisted care." says Bish.

Pippa Cunliffe is one resident who has moved into the new care home, having come from across the road from the previous care home in Somervale village.

"Moving into Somervale was the best things I have ever done! The new care home truly feels like home with a lounge and kitchen I can use whenever I feel like it. I have already organised for my family to come over for a meal," says Pippa.

For more information please contact:

**Holly Hatch-Stevens, Mango on
behalf of Metlifecare**

Tel: +20 403 15178

metlifecare.co.nz

Metlifecare CEO Glen Sowry was pleased to welcome Pippa and her fellow residents, their family and guests alike to the opening of the care home on the 30th of November,

“This home and Metlifecare staff will provide a high standard of care, which we expect will be warmly received in the Bay of Plenty.”

“As we look to the future, we plan to expand our care offering in the Bay of Plenty region, with two further care homes, at The Avenues and Papamoa Beach Village set to begin construction in 2018,” said Sowry.

Sowry adds, “We are proud to continue to invest in the Bay of Plenty region and look forward to welcoming residents to the Somervale care home and in the years to come, The Avenues and Papamoa Beach Village care homes.”



ABOUT METLIFECARE

Metlifecare is a leading New Zealand owner and operator of retirement villages, providing rewarding lifestyles and care to more than 5,000 New Zealanders. Established in 1984, it currently operates 24 villages, located primarily in high-value and high-growth regions of New Zealand's upper North Island.

Metlifecare is listed on the NZX and ASX. metlifecare.co.nz

For more information please contact:

**Holly Hatch-Stevens, Mango on
behalf of Metlifecare**

Tel: +20 403 15178

metlifecare.co.nz